

PC ESD #6

Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2024

CALL TO ORDER:

- Meeting called to order @ 6:33 PM by D.Tillman
- Members present: T. Lewelling, R. Dalton, T. Huffhines, D. Tillman, S. Harrison
- Invocation by R. Dalton
- Pledges of Allegiance recited.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. OFFICER REPORTS AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR APRIL 16, 2024 BOARD MEETING:

- T. Huffhines and T. Lewelling paid visits to sign checks and visited Chief Teague in the hospital
- D. Tillman transferred funds to pay for Tin Top property purchase
- T. Huffhines motions to approve minutes from June Board meeting, T. Lewelling seconds – all in favor

2. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT/MANPOWER – VOLUNTEERS- SCFD:

- 43 total personnel on roster – 5 new volunteers hired, 2 fully TCFP certified, 2 EMS certified with some Fire experience, 1 is a brand new volunteer
- Engine 44 awaiting parts to replace damaged compartment door, and DEF issue (at Ford house for diagnosis)
- Engine 344 Electrical issue (Pump shift valve out and electrical issue between governor and throttle control on engine – problem traced down and fixed)
- Current Parker County Emergency Manager/Fire Marshall resigned – interim manager in place
 - EDS6 anticipating, proactively, the purchase of a new Utility Truck (~48K in cost) to account for the expected recall of truck on loan by Parker County Emergency Management Command
 - Proposal is to purchase the new truck from this year's budget and equip (~40K in cost) out of next year's budget.
 - After purchase, remaining fund balance would be ~200K not counting the funds of 200K in CDs.
 - Truck would be used to support water rescue, firefighting, and training – would be stored at SpringCreek initially and then at the new Tin Top facility when needed.
- Grass fire off HWY 171 (Trinity Ranch View rd.- actually occurred in first week of July)
- Generator purchased with last year's fund to be installed this winter
 - Won't run the entire building but all of critical systems will be supported
- Training: 2 firefighters completed coursework at the Fire academy, 3 in various stages of coursework.
- 4 Firefighters attended the A&M Municipal Fire Academy
- 4 Firefighters have taken their Class B driver's license written exam – Road test to be scheduled
- Call volume: Total of 61 in June (2 Fire, 38 EMS, all others 21 (Hazards, Service calls, Good intent, and SVR WX/Natural Disaster) 385 YTD - down 35 vs. same period in 2023)
- Call times - 1:28 turnout, 12:21 travel time, Time on scene 20:42
- Other metrics, including call data by zone, on file

3. FIRE DEPARTMENT CRESSON

- June – 77 calls, 439 YTD (vs. 413 YTD in 2023)
- Breakdown: Parker County (ESD6) – 12, Cresson-5, Johnson-7, Hood 22, and Tarrant – 31
- Call times: Turnout – 1:07, Travel – 4:50, Total avg. 5:57 avg. total minutes
- Southbound Cresson bypass is open, Northbound lanes may be open by Thanksgiving
- Significant calls:
 - Dumpster fire that nearly burned a house down
 - Big structure fire in Granbury
 - Only 2 of calls were off of HWY 171
- Manpower:
 - Responders - 60 (Responders 28, Probationary 29, Juniors 3)
 - Leaves – 20 (1- Education, 4- Military, 8- Seniors, 7- Special Members)
 - Total roster - 80
 - 6 applications pending

4. DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED 2024-2025 BUDGET – SCFD

- Proposed budget reviewed based on Ad valorem taxes collected to date
- New tax rate will be known by the end of July 2024 – George Teague will email that info out when available
- Dispatch call service for proposed budget went up ~\$9600 (Total ~69K for 2024-2025)

- Line 6000.2 includes 3 new full time positions, Paying Nick Wells Chief pay, increasing the Admin hourly pay from 18 to 20.00, decreasing George Teague's weekly hours from 25 to 15
- FEMA grant (~2 million), if approved, will pay for the 9 full time positions for 3 years (SAFER Grant approval pending decision expected in October) – this would fund the 3 new full time positions plus.
 - 3 full time shifts, AM, PM and Overnight would be covered with 9 full time positions
 - FEMA SAFER grant approval looks positive and notice should be received in time for August meeting
- New truck will require more insurance expense – amount to be provided in next update
- Workers comp for 3 substantial claims totaling just over 100K
- 1.3 Million amount of last year's collections used as a starting point
- If there is no increase in tax revenues, ESD6 reserves are projected to reduce by ~36K
- Hiring outlook to fill 9 full time positions is positive and enhanced ESD6 proficiency is an expected result
- Legal service expenses are expected to decline
- Raising the tax rate is discussed – .09/100 increase to .095/100 to be considered in August meeting
- Sales Tax strategy up for consideration as well – lessons learned from this year?

5. DISCUSSION OF CRESSON BUDGET REQUEST FOR 2024-2025

- Proposes annual contract payment of 140K (up from 120K this year) – this equals 76% of the estimated costs to service ESD6 calls – no increase in the last budget cycle
- Engine 330 payments of 36,450 (176K total – Term through 2026) Line 6000.11 of budget
- Percent of calls for ESD6 (YTD ~18%)
- Total annual increase of ~13% increase

6. APPROVE AN UPDATED RECORDS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

- Records Management policy reviewed.
- All reports are saved on the Cloud in at least 2 separate sites and thus ESD6 complies with the State policy
- T. Lewelling motions to approve the President to sign for ESD6 Compliance of the state Records Management Policy, T. Huffhines seconds the motion – all in favor.

7. UPDATE OF OUR AGREEMENT WITH THE PARKER COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT

- Meeting with the Hospital District on Thursday (T. Huffhines will attend)
 - Review a preliminary design of a new combined facility with ambulance facility on one end and Fire facility on the other end with bays in the middle.
 - ESD6 budget constraints have been conveyed and any plan will account for them.
 - Architect will produce a line drawing to help consider use of space
 - The facility is expected to take up to 4 of the 5 lots
 - 50 foot setback planned for a facility
 - 5th lot may be used as a parking lot and a drive around the back of the facility
 - Fire facility is planned for the north end of the lots to keep it closer to existing facility
 - Old blue building is planned for tear down.

8. UPDATE ON STATUS OF THE 3 LOTS ON TIN TOP ROAD NEXT TO STATION 2:

- Property on Tin Top report: Purchase completed, Surveyor to survey additional two lots owned by County
 - Now own 5 lots in a row that are mostly vacant – some trailers and other debris to be moved
 - Survey to reflect all 5 lots

9. NEW AGENDA ITEMS

- **DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED 2024-2025 BUDGET – SCFD**
- **DISCUSSION OF CRESSON BUDGET REQUEST FOR 2024-2025**
- **UPDATE OF OUR AGREEMENT WITH THE PARKER COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT**
- **UPDATE ON STATUS OF THE 3 LOTS ON TIN TOP ROAD NEXT TO STATION 2:**
- **PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED BUDGET AND TAX RATE**

10. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS (HEAR VISTORS WHO HAVE INDICATED BY SIGNATURE THEIR DESIRE TO SPEAK FOR FIVE MINUTES):

- NA

11. ADJOURNMENT

- R. Dalton motions to adjourn the meeting @ 8:44, T. Lewelling seconds the motions – all in favor